

# Defend, Indemnify, Hold Harmless – What This Contract Language Means for A/E Professionals

[J. Brandon Sieg](#) of [Vandevanter Black LLP](#) addresses the question of what is meant when a contract requires an architect or engineer to “defend, indemnify, and hold harmless” the project owner for specific (or not so specific) types of claims that might arise in the future.

Regarding duty to defend, he explains that: “If you agree to similar language in your design contract, then you are agreeing to hire the project owner’s lawyer to defend a lawsuit filed against the project owner.”

He also covers responsibilities that go with indemnification and “hold harmless.”

[Read the article.](#)